



CALIFORNIA GARDEN

IN THIS NUMBER

THE WASHINGTON PALM

By Fidella G. Woodcock

THE FUTURE OF CALIFORNIA GARDENS

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JANUARY, 1929

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No. 7

THE WASHINGTON PALM

(*Washington filifera*)
California Fan Palm

By Fidella G. Woodcock

The two giant trees, Sequoia, the Redwood, and Washingtonia, the Fan Palm of Southern California desert wilds, people in all lands have learned to revere because they are as truly epoch-making in their life history as are great individuals of the human world, who have given character in their own halo of glory to the time in which they lived.

To the school child these revelations of wonderful forms of tree-life are in every way of as much value to the open-minded hunter of nature's wealth as the spoils of the mines to those who have lived in other ages. In order to preserve the primitive beauty of Yosemite National Park all of the accompanying species that follow the redwood vegetation are being planted in 35 acres of public lands devoted solely to native plants. When completed this wild flower garden will be the largest in the world. This conserving of nature will protect the roots of the mammoth trees from extinction, for they are watered mostly by the streams of melting snow from the High Sierras.

The California Fan Palm though of a later age recently has become monumental by the United States Government protection from fire and careless abuse of camping facilities along its trail. At the base of San Jacinto mountain in Riverside county to the very doors of San Diego County is a little known group of palms through which a trail extends to the desert Borego flats where thrive the most beautiful of the succulent plants known in our arid lands.

For Southern California the conservation of this area would be as truly a landmark to our natural inheritance of the pristine past as the preservation of the redwood forests of the north. Merely because they belong to the land as an heritage for all time is a sufficient reason for protecting them. Otherwise the removal of the surrounding flora will lay bare the vital tissues and without environment the Washingtonias will succumb to the day of extinct species as did the Sequoia of New Mexico.

It is here that human control is indispensable, it is the binding force between nature and spiritual vision that sees and sponsors for the future what may be saved and enjoyed in all time.

"Open Air Politics" in San Diego are at present dealing with a serious problem in the way of a subject that refers intrinsically to the geological history of the desert flora of Southern California as it is affected by reclamation projects and by the commercializing of wild life, especially of the wonderful weird Cactus shapes, for rock gardens—the agaves, the euphorbias, the ocotillo, and other low-growing succulents. These plants contain storage cells that can conserve in rainy times enough moisture to keep them alive through three successive rainless years.

They are the natural products of another age than ours. the conservation people though not addicted to hobbies, would like to keep these species intact in a state desert park, expressive of the reverence in which all people hold the works of God and nature for all time and which are the climax of growth of some of the epoch-making trees of pre-historic times. Of this type is the only indigenous California fan palm, the giant of American palms, the Washington Palm, the foliage and fibre of which furnished most of the useful material for thatch and clothing that before the invention of machinery supplied the native desert tribes with daily necessities.

This is a simple but obvious exposition of what we can find in our resources if we can learn to conserve and control our natural surroundings. The giant Sequoia was at one time in danger of destruction from vandalism and neglect, and from the carelessness of incendiaries. In the age when gymnosperms were the most abundant trees of the forest the Sequoia flourished perhaps around the earth near the sea. As the continent elevated itself higher and higher it appeared always on ancient sea beaches, now fossil beds, but exposed to the wind and fog of the ocean.

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In the mountains of New Mexico there are proofs of the existence of these early giants that afterward gave place to the palms and palm lilies represented by the fan palms and yuccas of today.

The shifting sand dunes of the deserts of the south and rocky wastes of the erstwhile ocean beds brought the Atlantic at one time very near to California. A group of Washingtonias still lives in and about this wonderful gorge that a Herculean task surveyed and constructed into a railroad bed, the San Diego & Arizona in recent times.

At the meeting point of the four counties of the Colorado Desert is the prospective ground for a desert park, for it is at this juncture that the extension of Palm Springs Washingtonia canyon of a thousand palms begins. The trail of the canyon up the east side of San Jacinto Mountain from central Riverside into San Diego county if extended into a boulevard would lessen the distance of 185 miles to the coast to about 80 miles.

There are in all approximately One Thousand Palms on the San Diego side of the line and these trees have never been especially brought to public notice. It is in direct line with the Banner Grade route from Julian to the desert floor in San Felipe Valley. In the hottest part of the season, beginning in May, the arid slopes are a veritable garden of the most surpassing blooms of the heat loving plants.

To commercialize these lands would be a sure death to the Washington Palm because its vital substance is derived from the briny soil in which the roots are imbedded that irrigation by fresh water would cause to deteriorate.

The commercialists, including a hot-bed of real estate dealers, are desirous of supporting three ocean beach parks and excluding the desert park. The conservationists are working for the monuments of tree life. At present San Diego is framing prohibitive ordinances by which protection of its characteristic plants is obtained by means of the county supervisors who issue permits restricting picking of wild flowers and forest growth on public lands and on private lands without the consent of the owners of the property.

The law is to go before the state legislature for prohibiting waste and for the protection of local characteristic flora. Twenty-six species are conserved. The measure for the bonding of state parks passed in the November election and present aspects show that a fight is on for the modification of the measure.

Nature's unwritten law reveals to us that all good results are obtained by preserving the balance of forces that develop the best

life, call it what you may, evolution, creation, or natural common sense—"live and let live".

Washingtonia Canyon is as distinctive of the Great Southwest as the Sequoia groves of the humid belt of northern California, the two giants may live and be enjoyed for time to come by the people of every land.

TALES OF A TRAVELER

(Continued)

By Peter D. Barnhart

Before I went East this last summer I was under the impression that California had a monopoly of the color "yellow" in its native flora.

I was disillusioned when I saw great areas of the Atlantic Coast country ablaze with golden sunshine, of varying degrees of intensity as it appeared in the different species of flowers.

Loosestrife: *Lysimachia* in two species, *Stricta* and *Quadrifolia*, fields of it.

Money wort: *L. nummularia*, the species introduced from Europe, largely used a half century ago for hanging baskets, has escaped from cultivation and now forms mats of dark green leaves, sprinkled with golden yellow flowers in low boggy ground.

Butterfly weed, also known as Milkweed, and not without a good reason, adorned large areas with its rich yellow umbles of flowers on long stiff stems. Great quantities of this flower are brought into New York market done up in sheaves like sheaves of grain. As a cut flower it is lasting and very desirable.

Asclepias tuberosa is the botanic name it bears.

Then there is the St. John's wort tribe: acres of it. How many species of it I never stopped to count. The juice of one species: *Hypericum perforatum*, is so intensely acrid that it blisters the nose of a horse with a white skin when grazing where it grows. A horse with a black nose is immune from injury of this plant.

Of Dandelions—Oh glory be! what a scene they were, along the railroad track, around the homes of the fertile farms of Iowa and of Illinois. My pen is not equal to the task of portraying the exquisite beauty of those lovely carpets.

The humid climate and fertile soil is congenial to the development of the flowers of this introduction from Europe.

The size of the flowers are about three times those grown in California and I can easily understand the motives of the plant enthusiast of the east who brought seeds with him when he migrated to this state, and the flowers did not measure up to those grown in the "old home town" and were a disap-

pointment. How our dreams are shattered, our ideals brought to naught by wrong ideas of the "proprieties," even of plant life.

Goldenrod began to flaunt its plumes in the breeze September first. In some sections of the country one species of this plant grows in mats, shallow rooted, and the fellow who can plow a field covered with it, and not swear, deserves a gold medal for good temper, and an inexhaustible amount of patience. I know whereof I speak.

One species of Hawkweed, of the Compositae tribe, known as Hieraceum Canadensis, is without parallel for spectacular beauty when in full bloom, and grown in large masses, say five to twenty acres of it. The flowers are a rich orange yellow, and the man or woman who can look upon a field of it in its glory, without his enthusiasm boiling up and bubbling over, is either a dullard, or has his or her feelings under absolute control.

When I look upon a scene like that I shout aloud—yes and if in the company of a sweet young thing she comes in for an unusual amount of attention if the other fellow drives the car.

The plant is easily propagated from seed, or from "runners". My experience with Atlantic Coast plants in this state has been so unsatisfactory that I hesitate to conduct further experiments with them. Let younger men try, and I shall look on with interest. But I would like to have a large planting of this species of Hawkweed.

(To be continued)

A REAL GARDEN

Ministers of the Gospel take texts from the Bible on which to build their sermons. At this time I shall take a text from California Garden, November issue, page 12, column one, of the writings of one Alfred D. Robinson. It reads thus: "The essence of a real garden is the amount of Self put into it by its owner."

If ever there was a greater truth uttered, I have failed to hear or read it.

After three score years at playing the game for myself—also playing it for other people with large bank accounts, who paid me for playing for them, the thought contained in the text came home to me with such force that it created within me the inspiration of this article.

Once upon a time a woman of wealth, and presumably of culture called me in to plan and plant, and care for her garden. She was a society woman, whose chief delight was in social functions, and occasionally condescended—that last word is used in this story with all due regard for the significance of its meaning—to show her friends the garden,

not her garden, but the garden. Years rolled by as years will do, and the social life the woman lived, wrecked her health, as social life invariably does to its devotees. She went abroad in search of lost health. The quest was in vain. As a last resort she tried gardening, not by proxy, but by and with her own hands. She put **herself** into the work and to her amazement discovered that it gave her more **real** pleasure than any expensive pleasure she had tried before, ever did. The woman found herself. She found her lost health in the garden. The school girl complexion was lost in the rounds of entertainment of earlier years. The spirit of youth however, which had been buried beneath dross was resurrected, and now she has a **real** garden in which she finds pleasure in its purity, health in its fullness, all because she puts **herself** into it.

This is but one of the many such cases that has come under my observation during the past half century. When will men and women of means awaken to the fact that no other vocation or avocation is so interesting as gardening; the cultivation of flowers? "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose," when they make this discovery.—P. D. B.

Many of our Association will recall the gentlemanly nurseryman, Mr. Naas of Ninth Street, just east of the Library, and many also have wondered what had become of him. A very short illness with the dread cancer tells the story.

His lifetime wife and sweetheart, incurably ill and mind gone, was left to a sister's care, and the lovely garden both had helped to make and fill with choice plants and shrubs literally dried up last summer.

He was a Nurseryman because of love of flowers. Often his friends have heard him say, "Oh, if I could afford to raise plants and give them to those who love them, instead of selling them to someone who allows them to die."

I was ill myself at time of his sickness. As soon as able I visited his home. The house locked up, lath and glass houses filled with dead plants, the garden still retaining a few which had survived neglect. Years of hard work all gone—that was my first thought. Then I realized that it could not be wasted. Nothing of good can go for naught. He helped to make others love Nature's beauties and many are happier today as they look at a beautiful rosebush, a handsome fern or a blooming shrub which came from him.

I felt a few lines in our Magazine, as a memorial, are due to one whom we will always remember as a true flower lover.

A Friend.

CITY TREE COMMISSIONERS OFFER SOLUTION OF WORRY ABOUT PLANTING PARKWAYS

By Ada Perry

No San Diego brows need be wrinkled over the problem of trees for parking strips. What to plant and why, and how to do it, are questions that can be answered immediately by the street tree commission at the city hall.

Not everyone knows of this department of city service. Yet it is equipped with a good sized commission of citizens who meet once a month. Headquarters are in the office of the manager of operations, Fred M. Lockwood, room 19, city hall. If you phone Main 5161, local 28, Mrs. Mae Meilleur, who acts as the executive secretary of the street tree commission, will answer inquiries and mail you a very nice advisory booklet.

Charles A. Jones, the street tree warden, will be glad to come out and hold a consultation with you on the most suitable choice of tree. Mr. Jones is also the gentleman from whom you must get permission to take a tree out of the parking. The city automatically becomes the guardian of street trees after they are planted.

The street tree commission boosts palms for parkings, especially the *cocos plumosa*. The more palms we have the better the climate is advertised. Mr. Jones declares that a street lined with palms feels much balmy than one bordered with less tropical appearing trees. Try that on your imagination some time.

But the street tree warden has found that the *cocos plumosa* has more points in its favor for parking strips than any tree in San Diego. All of us who love the long border of glistening fronds on Sixth Street, next to Balboa Park, will not find it hard to agree with him. There is the practical side of the matter also. Cocos do not bulge the sidewalks or curbs. And they are good for 100 years anyway. It is a little bit futile to plant a street tree that will not endure a long time.

In narrow parkings the *cocos* is also an especial prize. It will accommodate itself to 18 or 24 inches with very good grace. The clean trunks take up little room and the soft frond ends have no war with your eyesight. If the street tree commission's stand on *cocos* is still not strong enough, take a good look at the fine specimens in the plaza and bordering the city library. Their adaptability is evident and strangers and citizens alike marvel at their grand tropical beauty.

Other palms mentioned by the commission are *Kentia Forsteriana*, *Cocos Australis* (hardy blue *cocos*), *Chamaerops Humilis* (dwarf fan palm), *Washingtonia Sonorae*, *Chamaerops Excelsa* (Japanese windmill fan palm). Other trees listed are pepper, camphor,

live oak, Yate gum, red-flowered gum, red box, *acacia dealbata*, *pittosporum undulatum*, *Catalina cherry*, *Brisbane box*, *Hymenosporum flavum* (nickname open to nomination), *Jacaranda*. Of these the camphor has a high rating for beauty and adaptability. The live oak and the *Catalina cherry* are hardy natives with all the good points of such subjects.

Of course the street tree commission bends much effort toward uniform planting of parkings. A number of trees of one kind have more value than disconnected specimens.

The shrubs that stand up best for parkings in tree warden Jones' experience here are *Eugenia myrtifolia* and *hibiscus*. The foliage of the *Eugenia* is always in lovely condition and it can stand any amount of trimming and shaping. Then there are few prettier sights than a chain of *hibiscus* in flower.

Other shrubs recommended are *pittosporum viridiflorum*, *oleander*, *abelia*, *laurestinus*, *pittosporum tobira*, *tecoma*, *Smithii*, *duranta plumeri*, *escalonia*.

Don't come to the street tree commission with the complaint that a tree is too much work to clean up after. This argument gives them too big a laugh and besides they have a counter attack that will make you ashamed of yourself. They remind you of all the snow and ice you get out of shoveling here in San Diego.

One worthy lady asserted that her *eucalyptus* took 15 minutes a day out of her house-keeping duties (she must have been exquisitely neat). She was reminded and finally convinced that those 15 minutes in the open air were the best ones in the day for her.

Other members of the street tree commission are Forrest L. Heatt, president; J. W. Snyder, vice president; Mrs. J. M. Lathrop, recording secretary; E. H. Dowell, Fred M. Lockwood, John Morley and M. L. Slater.—(San Diego Union).

A CALIFORNIA CHRISTMAS CARD

A good California Christmas card for distribution to the East is the following received from that able garden worker, Miss Alice A. Williams of Corona, Calif. who is district chairman of gardens for the Federated Clubs of Southern California.

"You get more outdoors to the square inch in California than any other place on earth, so, imagine what you get in a back yard out here at Christmas time."

Miss Williams is working for plant surveys, living Christmas trees, outdoor living rooms and conservation through the transformation of back yards.—K. O. S.

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The Jan. and Feb. Gardens

THE GARDEN

By Walter Birch

January and February being months during which there is much planting in the flower and vegetable garden and also in the shrubbery line generally it is advisable to prepare the ground as soon as possible by spading and manuring, leaving a rough open surface to encourage penetration of sun and air, particularly in the heavy clay soils. If time will permit a second spading or deep cultivation before planting will be beneficial. It is also important to protect the young plants, either with wind breaks or a mulch of strawy manure or litter applied loosely on the surface around the plants.

January is one of the best months for pruning rose bushes, fruit trees and many other plants and, in most cases, you will err on the right side by pruning pretty severely, especially as regards your deciduous fruit trees, which should be pruned so as to support a good weight of fruit.

Most people like a few fruit trees and berry bushes for home use and January is a good month to plant them. A peach or two, an apricot, a grapefruit, lemon and navel orange make a nice selection and, in the berry line a few loganberries, mammoth blackberries and strawberries will be much enjoyed during fruiting season.

In preparing your ground for tree planting, be sure to dig your holes large, about three feet in diameter and a foot deeper than you intend to set the trees. Be sure to cut off any broken or bruised roots and, when planting, spread the roots carefully in a natural position, setting trees from one to two inches deeper than they have been in the nursery. If you use manure, mix it thoroughly with the soil, or as a mulch on the surface to be gradually worked in.

Rhubarb is also a distinct addition to the kitchen garden if you get the right variety. Embree's Cherry Rhubarb (which comes in subdivisions of the roots, not seedlings) is a splendid variety, will bear ten months of the year, large stalks red all through, fine flavor requiring little sugar and will not go to seed. Plant in well manured ground almost up to

the crown, setting plants about three feet apart, will begin to bear two or three months after planting.

Plant a strawberry bed now. Giant Mastodon or Oregon Plum are both fine varieties, the latter being a particularly well flavored berry and both varieties good producers. Set plants about one foot apart in rows two feet apart. A mulch of strawy manure on the surface will help. You should have berries from April to October.

If you are fond of Asparagus, set your roots out now. Mary Washington blight resistant is the best variety to use. Prepare by deep digging and heavy manuring, planting the roots one to one and a half feet apart in rows three feet apart, planting to a depth of about one foot and covering plants half that depth, gradually filling in to level of surface. Set stakes to show where your rows of plants are and use intervening space for any other plants you may desire.

Set out your rose bushes as soon as they are available and also some of the many beautiful climbers and flowering shrubs that add so much to the attractiveness of the home. *Bigonia Venusta*, that beautiful orange colored climber is now very much in evidence and is fine for fences or individual plants on the house or pergola.

Don't forget to make another good planting of that wonderfully attractive bulbous cut flower, *Ranunculus*. You will be rewarded with a mass of blooms during April, May and June, in fact, you can plant these bulbs with very satisfactory results until the middle of February.

GARDEN CONTEST NOTICE

The Committee on the Garden Contest is not yet ready to announce the details of the competition. A slight change has been made in the plans, providing for three instead of four judgments each year, probably in April, July and October. Full details will be published in the February issue, allowing ample time for all to make entries.

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The California Garden

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EDITORIAL

PASADENA ROSE TOURNAMENT

Photographs of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses, held New Year's Day, are at hand and tales of those who actually saw it have been heard. From all accounts, both ocular and oral, the floats were marvelous and the affair itself a splendid success. This annual Tournament of Roses is one of the very best ideas Pasadena ever had, as is amply proven by the beauty of the floats, the enthusiasm of the participants and the approval of the crowds thronging Pasadena on that day.

The California Garden congratulates Pasadena for making an exceptionally beautiful display of flowers in an exceedingly attractive manner. Pasadena sets us all an example of civic enterprise in this connection.

LATHHOUSE MATTERS

A definite loss has been sustained by the California Garden and its readers in the suspension of the unique column conducted by Mr. A. D. Robinson under the title "Lathhouse Matters". Mr. Robinson has been con-

nected with the Garden magazine for over 20 years as Editor and contributor of monthly lathhouse and other articles so that it hardly seems possible the magazine can continue to function without his active participation. His begonia business has grown to such an extent and the demands being made upon him by reason of it are taking so much of his time and strength that he does not feel he can continue to contribute regularly. He promises, however, to let us have occasional articles as inspiration and time may permit.

Mr. Robinson's articles, as previously indicated, have been unique. No other writer in any garden magazine anywhere has covered the begonia field so fully and authoritatively as he. His experiences in growing this wonderful plant as outlined here monthly and the advice he has freely given to others through these columns will not soon be forgotten by any of us.

REDWOODS REPATRIATED

Of all plants growing within the borders of the Golden State none is so widely known throughout the world as the mighty trees of the genus *Sequoia*—the Big Trees of the Sierras and the Redwood of the Coast. The fame of these trees has spread far from their native shores and they stand for California in the eyes of many peoples of the earth.

Seeds of these trees were sent many years ago to various countries where specimen trees are now growing in parks and botanical gardens. Climatic and soil conditions in New Zealand appear to be peculiarly suited to the requirements of the Coast Redwood and several small experimental plantations there have made such rapid and satisfactory growth that the government there and several private corporations are growing large numbers of seedling trees for forest planting. This year more than 150 pounds of redwood seed was shipped from Humboldt and Mendocino counties for sowing in New Zealand forest nurseries.

A few of the redwoods growing in New Zealand are old enough to produce seeds and Professor Woodbridge Metcalf of the Forestry Division of the University of California has just received a quantity of seed collected there and forwarded by Arnold Hannson of the New Zealand Forest Service. This is probably the first shipment of foreign-grown redwood seed ever received in this country and is therefore of great interest. Tests to determine the effect of the ocean voyage on the viability of the seed will be carried on and compared with similar tests conducted in New Zealand. Seedlings will be grown in the forest nursery on the campus at Berkeley and they will be carefully watched to determine if the long sojourn of their parents on foreign soil

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has given them any suggestion of alien characteristics.

"These seeds look the same as any other redwood seeds," says Professor Metcalf, "but they ripened in April this year, which of course is autumn in New Zealand, and as yet we cannot guess how these redwood repatriates will compare with native stock."

WREATH AND BERRIED SHRUB DISPLAY

On Monday afternoon, December 17th, the Floral Building in Balboa Park presented a most lovely appearance to all who attended the Association's display of Christmas wreaths, berried shrubs and living Christmas trees. The following awards were made:

Class I—Baskets of Berries.

W. S. Merrill, first.

F. L. Hieatt, second.

Class II—Sprays.

Mrs. M. A. Greer, first.

Class III—Wreaths.

Mrs. M. A. Greer, first.

Miss K. O. Sessions, second and third.

Class IV—Bowls.

F. L. Hieatt, first and second.

Class V—Best Collection.

Park Board, first.

Class VI—Jars of Berries.

F. L. Hieatt, first and second.

Miss Sessions gave a most interesting talk on berried shrubs, naming and describing all the specimens there. At the close of her talk, tea was served and the displays were sold to those present. The proceeds amounted to \$12.50.—W. S.

SAN DIEGO WEATHER DURING JANUARY

Dean Blake, Meteorologist
Weather Bureau

Of the months, January, without question, is the coldest of the year in San Diego. Low temperatures are most frequent, and the daily mean temperature is at its lowest, and the frost hazard reaches its most acute stage. It was in 1913, that the record minimum of 25 degrees was established, the only month in the history of the Weather Bureau that temperatures below the freezing point were recorded.

It is also our rainiest month, and the liability of stormy days is greatest. Hardly a January has passed without a rainy spell of several days duration, and these periods are almost always accompanied by strong southerly winds.

But in spite of its being the mid-winter month and most boisterous month, the percentage of sunshine is large, dark foggy days are absent, and much fine, clear weather is experienced.

THE FUTURE OF CALIFORNIA'S GARDENS

By Eric Walther

Part 2.—South Africa

Accepting the principle that, to be successful here, additional exotics for making our gardens more interesting must come from regions with a climate as much as possible like ours, we shall find an even more promising region in the southwestern portion of South Africa. There at the Cape exists a large territory where a period of winter rains is followed by a rainless summer, with virtual freedom from any killing frosts. Towards the interior plateaux the precipitation rapidly decreases, and in the Karroo region xerophytes and succulents reach a high development. The latter class deserves the special attention of California's gardeners desiring to economize with water, and is curiously enough almost totally lacking in Australia. Plants adapted to survive the summer drought by means of underground resting bulbs are also extremely numerous, as exemplified for instance by Gladioli, Watsonia, Freesia, Amaryllis, etc. Even now it would be difficult to imagine one of our gardens without any South African plants, and in view both of the relative success of the species here now, as well as the almost proverbial floral wealth of the Cape of Good Hope it is really surprising that these Cape plants are not better represented here. In "A Book of South African Flowers" it is stated by Mrs. L. Bolus that from an area near Cape Town of about 200 square miles, there are known 2296 species of flowering plants, making this easily the world's richest floral region. At the beginning of the last century many a single European conservatory boasted of more "Cape-plants" than are grown today in the whole of California. All doubts as to their beauty and desirability will be removed by a glance at the colored plates of the above-mentioned work or Marloth's "Flora of South Africa". It is really difficult to convey an adequate conception, by words alone, of the beauty, say, of Protea cynaroides. Imagine a glorified artichoke flowerhead, expanding 5 to 8 inches, with its involucre bracts a bright pink, each terminating a branch of substantial foliage and you have a faint idea of what is called, not undeservedly, the "King Protea". Another, quite different, type of plant are the heaths; the genus Erica, of nearly 500 species, having its headquarters at the Cape. Some of these heathers reach a height of nearly 10 feet, others possess flowers nearly 2 inches long, these being in some cases fragrant, and range in color from white through pink to deep red and even yellow and orange. Quite a number of species new to California have recently been imported by

John McLaren, superintendent of Golden Gate Park, where some of them are now beginning to flower. The most promising of these appears to be *E. taxifolia*, others being *E. decipiens*, *E. grandiflora*, *E. glutinosa*, *E. quadrangularis*, *E. linnaeoides*, *E. baccans*, *E. concinna*, *E. accipiens* and *E. sessiliflora*. The Protea family, so characteristic of the Australian Flora, here also reaches a very high development, the genus *Protea* with about 86 species being worthy of special note. To the writers knowledge *P. mellifera* is the only one of these which has flowered so far in the state, at the grounds of the Hotel Del Monte; but it has now ceased to exist. *P. compacta* is at present in bud at Golden Gate Park, where *P. rosacea* and *P. susannae* are also growing now. Of the 82 species of *Leucadendron* only one, *L. argenteum*, is at all well known in California, and even yet is pointed out as a rarity while three others, *L. plumosum*, *L. venosum* and *L. stokoei* are recent additions to the collections of Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.

Leucospermum, popularly known as "Pin-cushions," with 31 species, and *Serruria*, with 50 species, the largest remaining genera of this family, are totally unknown here. The last genus includes the lovely *Serruria florida*, its apt name of "Blushing Bride" being occasioned by the delicate pink flush of the otherwise white involucre that surrounds the nodding flower heads.

Of other important families we may mention first the Rutaceae, with 143 species of *Agathosma*, 20 species of *Barosma*, 29 species of *Adenandra*, 15 species of *Diosma* and 9 species of *Coleonema*. Of all these only *Coleonema album* and *Agathosma ventenatiana* are grown here, both commonly misnamed *Diosma*, i. e., *D. alba* and *D. purpurea* respectively. This entire family is characterized by its glandular leaves, the aromatic foliage evidently representing another adaptation to a dry situation by protecting the plant against grazing animals. In the Pea family we find *Crotalaria* with 56 species, *Psoralea* with 46 species, and *Priestleya* with 15 species, *P. villosa* being perhaps the most showy, *Podalyrea* with 20 species, the last including *P. calyptrata*, just producing its large pink blossoms for the first time in Mr. Evan's garden at Santa Monica.

The ubiquitous and ever popular "Geranium" also is native to the Cape, belonging really to the genus *Pelargonium* of which over 200 species are known. In the Daisy family there are many other species yet to be introduced of such familiar genera as *Gazania*, *Arctotis*, *Dimorphotheca*, etc., and of the 65 species of *Felicia* we have so far only two, *F. amelloides*, the Blue Daisy, being the

one better known. Space is lacking for more than a passing mention of the innumerable Cape-bulbs, most of which should do exceptionally well in our gardens. In the Iris family we have *Gladioli* with alone 130 species, some of which ought to yield useful characters yet to the plant-breeder. Of the 23 species of *Aristea* only 2 seem to have arrived here as yet, *A. capitata* and *A. ecklonis* having been noted by the writer in Mr. Evans' garden, the first bearing lovely blue flowers of a shade only too rare in our gardens. Disregarding the *Amaryllis* family we find in the Liliaceae the genus *Kniphofia* (*Tritoma*), the well-known Red-hot-poker, with about 33 species, with only one of these commonly cultivated here. More important, though, would seem to be the genus *Aloe*, with its allies *Gasteria*, etc., which should have a great future in the gardens of California, needing very little water and often flowering during the winter months. The few species now growing here can give only a faint idea of the role the genus plays at home where some species, as *A. bainesi* and *A. dichotoma*, reach the dimensions of good-sized trees with an appearance somewhat like the common *Cordyline*. E. O. Orpet of Santa Barbara has some very promising species of this type in cultivation now, including the striking *A. supralaevis*. In South Africa the succulent habit is developed in quite a number of families, especially in the Crassulaceae where we have *Crassula* with 248 species and *Cotyledon* with 50 species, of which less than a dozen are known here now. More important is perhaps the genus *Mesembrianthemum*, of the Aizoaceae, now known to contain probably over 500 species. This genus has lately become the subject of intensive study by some botanists who seem to agree in splitting it into as many as 60 new genera, a treatment whose justification will be shown only by the test of time. There is no doubt, though, but that the genus is extremely variable in form; and should prove an interesting hobby for the discriminating collector. *Euphorbia*, of the family of the same name, is another succulent genus, with about 180 species known from South Africa, some of these deceptively simulating Cacti and to be distinguished from the latter most readily by their milky juice. A good collection of these curious plants may be seen in the garden of Mr. Edward Mendel at Hollywood.

The most comprehensive collection of novel and meritorious South African plants known to the writer is undoubtedly that of Mr. Hugh Evans at Santa Monica where the following new or rare Cape-plants are now growing: *Bowkeria gerrardiana*, *Buddleia salvifolia*, *Coleonema pulchrum*, *Crotalaria capensis*, *C. laburnifolia*, *Greyia sutherlandi*, *Leonotis dy-*

sophylla, *L. laxifolia*, *L. speciosa*, *Psoralea aphylla*, *Pavetta lanceolata*, *Rhigozum obovatum*, *Turraea obtusifolia*, *Moraea bicolor* and many others.

An encouraging fact is the existence, in South Africa, of a very much alive Botanical Society. This, besides protecting the native flora, helping to maintain the Botanical Gardens at Kirstenbosch and publishing a very interesting Journal, also makes it a practice to distribute a limited amount of available seeds to its members. Anyone wishing to accelerate the further introduction of other choice Cape-plants into the gardens of California could not do better than become a member of the Society mentioned, its address being Box 267, Cape Town, Union of South Africa.

(Part 3—Chile, to follow)

A CALIFORNIA SUNSET

One February afternoon we drove a weary way over a road, sinuous as a serpent's trail, a mere shelf on a canyon side, cliff above us and chasm below.

Suddenly, we swooped into a little valley like a green bowl rimmed round with mountains. We turned to the west. Before us, sharply silhouetted against a vivid sky, were two trimly shaped, sugar-loaf hills. One had green orchards running over the top, the other, twice as high, ended in a sharp rocky cone.

Behind them the world was on fire! Serried ranks of flame stood along the horizon. Their cohorts were gleaming with crimson and scarlet and salmon and gold. Their dazzling javelins dared the dark blue zenith. Between their brilliant helmets smiled a far away, faintly azure-green sky.

Over the mountains, to the north and to the south, curved clouds like great plumes fallen from some mighty archangel's wing. Their foam-like feathers shot through and through with bright rose and glowing gold; the lower fronds dripping over purple peaks with warm, translucent blood of rubies.

Thrilled with the heavenly vision, all the air in the valley flushed an exquisitely pale pink, as if responding to a magnificent anthem with an awed "Amen".

And the Glory of the Lord shone round about us!

It was a wondrous, a breathless sight. It was a deathless sight, for as long as memory endures it will "flash upon that inner eye" and fill the soul with ecstasy.

ELLA STODDARD RYAN.

MY ROCK AND POOL GARDEN, DRIPPING WELL AND WATERFALL

The chief thing in building a rock garden is to get it as high as possible, or build it on the side of a bank. If you have at your disposal only a flat piece of land it is advisable to draw out a plan very carefully and roughly sketch out the position of the highest point, as you must definitely settle the position which the large master stones must occupy. As newly made-up land always sinks after a short period it is advisable to erect concrete uprights to take these heavy master stones.

To do this obtain empty tins or small barrels of 12 to 15 inches diameter—put them into the required positions and fill with a very cheaply made concrete of ashes and cement, in the proportion of approximately 1 to 10. Fill the first barrel with this material and place the second barrel on the top and fill that—this will give you the height of two barrels. Now erect as many of these concrete piers as is necessary for your design. In front of these double barrels put a single barrel and fill it in the same manner. These uprights or concrete foundations will take the master stones and will remain in position. Continue this until you have the desired effect and the correct slope of the rockery.

When the main rockery stones are in position fill around the concrete piers with soil; at the bottom of the piers use any rough soil, but near the surface mix in, if possible, a considerable quantity of old lime rubble, covering this well over the top of the master stones, as after the first rain the soil will shrink considerably.

When the soil has had a few days to settle down put the secondary stones into position, making them quite firm in the soil, always remembering to lay them in such a manner that when the rain falls upon the stones it will run towards the plants. Again, always be careful to lay the stones in their correct strata, as a rockery looks very irregular if the stones are in an incorrect position when close to one another.

After the soil on the rockery has settled down it should be planted; lime and leaf-mould are important ingredients of rock garden soil.

My rockery has a dripping well and three little waterfalls. This water is taken from the roof of the house and collected in a large tank. All the ponds contain goldfish, which are doing remarkably well. The building of the rockery is not a very difficult undertaking. The highest stone is approximately eight feet high. A concrete wall has been placed at the back of the rockery to keep the soil and big stones in their correct positions.

Now try to make the pond. If you decide to have water, first dig out a deep sump, large

enough to take the water from the pond. Fix in the bottom an upright pipe into which an ordinary bath plug has been fitted, this will enable you to empty the pond easily, if required. Fill the sump with old bricks and large stones, and on top of this place the concrete bed of the pond made of good washed ballast and cement in the proportion of 1 to 5. Allow this to set partly, then put over the surface about half-an-inch of good washed sand and cement, to which has been added a small quantity of "Pudlo". On this foundation build the walls of the pond in stone or good brick, and behind put concrete, made of washed ballast and cement. If bricks are used, face them with sand and cement and a small quantity of "Pudlo".

The stone used for the rockery was water-washed limestone, purchased from Westmorland. It is absolutely permanent and is not affected by frost. In arranging the stones around the pond set them as irregularly as possible, and allow some of them to hang slightly over the edge. If possible put these into a layer of cement on top of the pond wall, so that if trodden on at any time they are perfectly firm and will not give way. You may have difficulty in making the pond watertight; should this happen it is advisable to mix further cement, sand and "Pudlo". Throw this on to the sides of the pond, which will adhere to the rough surface and eventually make the pond watertight. This also improves the surface of the pond and assists the green growth on the sides, which is essential for the life of the fish.

A waterfall can be added if required; in making this the stones over which the water has to pass must be placed well forward so that the water trickles directly into the pond below and the maximum amount of sound is made by the falling water.

It is advisable to erect a suitable tank to collect the whole of the water from the house, which is the best kind of water for fish life. If you are not in favor of this a tap could be arranged so that water can be taken direct from the main, and the waterfall or dripping water can be turned on when required. It is not necessary to leave water running for many hours during the day, only for high-days and holidays. If the water from the roof is properly arranged, every drop can be utilized for the dripping well or waterfall.

The sump should be large enough or built in such a manner that it will take the whole of the water from the pond. It is most important to clear out the pond now and again, and unless you have a sump of sufficient size, it becomes extremely difficult to empty.—A. G. Symmons in Popular Gardening.

CHORIZEMA ILICIFOLIA

The *Chorizema ilicifolia* is one of our very colorful winter-blooming shrubs but few realize how large a plant will grow or how much better the color of blossom when given a half-shaded location or full north exposure. If given a support the plant will easily reach 6 feet the second year; or if unsupported will spread over the ground for at least 5 to 6 feet and 2 feet or more high. Mr. L. F. Kimball of La Jolla made a circular rack with 2 barrel-hoops fastened to three stakes and the plant grew up and fell over, entirely concealing the support. At the end of the flowering season he trimmed the plant severely back to the frame and now the second year it is a most beautiful mound of dark green foliage covered with the fine spray of buds and blossoms.

A very attractive group is that excellent Japanese shrub, *Nandina Domestica* with the *Chorizema* planted at its base.

Chorizema (Choros-a dance and zema-a drink).

The party who discovered the first of these flowers in New Holland danced for joy at finding fresh water in its neighborhood.

—K. O. Sessions.

The Johnson Nursery

Of La Mesa



Announces the opening of its new sales yard on El Cajon Blvd. in the east end of La Mesa Heights.

In addition to our general line of ornamentals, we are offering for the holiday trade, *Cyclamen*, *Erica Melanthera*, Ferns, etc., at moderate prices.

BALBOA PARK—AN ASSET TO SAN DIEGO

In the Magazine Section of the Los Angeles Times of Sept. 30, 1928, George H. White writes as follows in regard to Balboa park and the San Diego Exposition of 1915-1916:

"As a small city, undertaking an international exposition, San Diego probably had more to gain than any of the large cities which have held expositions in the last quarter of a century. Certainly the greatest civic asset San Diego boasts at the present time is a legacy of its Exposition—Balboa Park improved * * * transforming a sage-grown waste of park lands in the center of the city into a beauty spot of landscaping and architecture that wins acclaim of world travelers.

"Architecturally the Panama-California Exposition, by its permanency, has been a genuine influence in general for the adoption of a Spanish type of architecture that has now come to be known * * * as the Southern California style * * *. The landscaping and plantings at the park exposition played a big part in the architectural influence through exemplification of harmonious gardening. Flowers, trees and shrubs from all parts of tropical, subtropical and temperate zones embellish not only the exposition site, but have been extended over 600 acres of the 1400-acre park that borders the business district and is surrounded by residential areas."

Tells of Units

Continuing, Mr. White writes of a fine arts gallery, natural history museum, scientific library, archeological museum, outdoor organ, zoological garden and a stadium. Facilities for the enjoyment of the people in addition to those mentioned are roque courts, tennis, golf course, horseshoe pitching and bridge paths; and continued improvements have produced for San Diego one of the famous parks in America.

Balboa Park by the visitation of hundreds of thousands during the exposition, and the last 12 years since its close, has been one of the causes for many new residents locating here. While many have come because of the naval activities both on sea and in the air, it was, nevertheless, largely due to the prominence given San Diego during the World War when the main buildings of the former exposition in Balboa Park were made available for use as a naval training station. This brought to the attention of the government the possibilities of San Diego as a base for the navy, marines, and the aviation departments of the army and navy.

Through the efforts of Congressman Kettner and other influential citizens at the time, who realized what an asset San Diego possessed in its extensive land-locked harbor and equable climate, have led to the establishment of permanent bases for all these branch-

es of the government, together with the immense naval hospital in the park.

Asset to City

That the improvement of Balboa Park for the 1915-1916 exposition and continued upkeep and development has been the means of selling San Diego, not only for the government departments, but also for numerous business enterprises, cannot be denied. Its temperate climate and scenic beauty have been the means, to a great extent, of the increase of population from that of a small town in 1911, when the building of the exposition was commenced, to a city of around 160,000 people at the present time.

The article of Mr. White—the views expressed by many visitors from all over the United States and other countries who have marveled at the horticultural beauty contained within this centralized area, all proclaim Balboa Park to be the chief asset of the city, and as the accepted plans for the continued development of the recreational facilities and the horticultural beautification of Balboa Park are gradually completed, it will continue to be the chief attraction from the esthetic standpoint and a commercial asset of undoubted value.

The public park system of San Diego includes 26 separate parks covering a total of 2600 acres and ranging in size from the mere "breathing space" a block square at the Plaza to Balboa Park's 1400 acres around which the city is built.

Dividing to some extent the business and residential sections, Balboa Park lies on a table land corrugated by deep canyons which burrow towards the bay and ocean thus affording many an exquisite vista. Six hundred acres of this park are highly developed, having been superbly landscaped and plotted for the great international exposition of 1915-1916. The beautiful buildings are now converted to the use of numerous cultural organizations and supply splendid facilities for the proper presentation and enjoyment of music, art, drama, museum, zoo and other educational features.

Any attempt to picture the charm of this great park, its buildings, its drives and walks, its gardens, shrubs or trees, or even to pick out its greatest feature, would be futile in the extreme, because to each individual Balboa Park offers too wide an appeal and he must of necessity center his approbation on one or two details which like as not another overlooks entirely in his particular admiration of something else. Six hundred acres intensely developed both in landscaping and architecturally is more than one mind can encompass even though visited regularly over a long period, for each day brings forth its quota of shrub or flower and even the archi-

tect is contriving his frequent contribution through the courtesy and financial aid of an interested citizenship which is constantly adding to what the park officials are able to do for the upkeep, maintenance and improvement of this great park.

Aided by Nature

The topography of the park, while difficult to handle in some respects with its deep canyons cutting through here and there offering road-building obstacles, is on the whole an advantage which has afforded exceptional opportunity for pleasing diversity in landscaping. The character of the climate, too, makes it possible to utilize with success a wider variety of flora perhaps than any other park in the country. In addition to these natural advantages the erection of the beautiful exposition buildings adds still another exceptional feature to this great park. Built and grouped with an eye to adornment but still not particularly with the thought of permanency, the idea of preserving them gradually grew upon the community after the exposition had come to an end and nearly a score of these buildings have now been restored and occupied under the practical control of certain organizations for the public good.

Owing to this liberal policy of the park board thousands of public spirited citizens have given of their energy, time and money for the establishment and upbuilding of a variety of cultural institutions which are lending their influence in the development of the finer side of the community, and affording pleasure to thousands of visitors.

Charming Vista

Artists from the east and from the capitals of Europe have visited San Diego that they might put upon canvas the charm that has made this spot a lure to lovers of beauty from the ends of the world, and many of these canvases have been admired in the galleries and salons of Paris, London and Rome.

Nowhere in this country has nature so favored the horticulturist, and the profusion of blossom never wanes. The seasonal flowers of spring and summer are literally crowded out by the no less prolific growth of fall and winter. The procession is endless and of infinite variety. Stately yuccas from the arid desert grow among the massed foliage of jungle origin, and tropic lianas bind the tall trunks of pines that germinated beneath the snows of the far north. Flaming hibiscus from the South Seas flaunts its radiance amid roses and lilies, against a background of graceful palms.

The main entrance to the park is by way of Laurel Street, which leads to Cabrillo bridge, whose quarter-mile span connects the Exposition grounds with the western part of the park. From this bridge the view is one of the most delightful to be had in the city.

A 112 feet straight below may be seen the lotus pond, where in season, lotus and pond lilies spring in thousands, casting their reflection upon the quiet bosom of the pond.

To the north, bison and other ruminants are seen grazing in their paddocks at the Zoological Garden, and the southern outlook embraces the downtown district of the city, San Diego Bay, and beyond that, the Silver Strand of Coronado, ruffled with the silvery lace of breaking surf, and the still more distant Coronado Islands of Old Mexico.

Houses Library

At the east end of the bridge stands the Administration building, flanked by the majestic tower of the California State building, housing the San Diego Scientific Library, facing the California building and with it forming a small plaza is the Fine Arts building, with exhibition galleries and the Academy of Fine Arts.

East of these and facing each other on either side of the main street or Prado are the Science of Man and Indian Arts buildings, in which are shown the archaeological, anthropological and Indian Arts exhibits of the San Diego museum. The buildings form the western wall of the Plaza de Panama, a paved court, where public festivities, outdoor dancing, fiestas and similar entertainments are of frequent occurrence.

Home of Legion

The American Legion building at the northeast corner of the plaza, reconstructed for activities of the Legion, contains one of the finest museums of World War relics in the west.

The Foreign Arts building, at the southeast corner of the plaza, has been reserved for expansion of the Natural History museum, which now fills to overflowing the old Canadian building of Exposition days. The mounted specimens of native animals, current and extinct varieties, the herbarium and other exhibits form an exceedingly interesting display of the fauna and flora of San Diego county.

South of the Plaza de Panama, flanked by its graceful peristyle framing glimpses of the blue Pacific, the great Spreckels organ commemorates the love of two brothers for their fellow-citizens. This largest outdoor pipe organ in the world, a gift to San Diego by John D. and Adolph Spreckels, is heard daily in concerts of unending delight to San Diegans and visitors from elsewhere.

Lagoon Attractive

Just north of the Prado and east of the American Legion building, the Lagoon, with its thousands of pond lilies and lotus blossoms, mirrors the lath dome of the botanical building, through which giant bamboo, nearly

70 feet in height, poke their fronded heads. In this building and in the adjoining conservatory are displayed the luxuriant tropical planting that would not thrive even in the mild climate of San Diego. Rare exotics and the more delicate native flowers are shown here under the most perfect growing conditions, and are the subject of admiring comment the year round.

The Domestic Arts building, one of the largest and handsomest of the Exposition group, is in frequent use for industrial and agricultural exhibits, the annual county fair being the most important of these features.

The pepper grove picnic grounds is one of the most popular sections of the park. Groups of tables in shaded nooks, convenient drinking fountains, playground apparatus and other equipment attract to this spot many picnic parties each day. The local Girl Scouts occupy two buildings in the pepper grove, and their activities add greatly to the life and spirit for which this part of the park is noted.

Zoo Is Extensive

The Zoological Society has taken over three of the Exposition buildings and have restored them for use as administrative, education and exhibit purposes, in connection with the 150-acre tract that has been transformed into an extensive zoological garden. The largest group of animals, birds and reptiles in the west is maintained in this zoo.

The Painted Desert occupies a large area in the north end of the park and comprises a group of replicas of Indian community houses. This, during the exposition, was regarded as one of the greatest attractions ever shown, and it was considered of so great value to the community that the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, by whom it was built, was prevailed upon to donate it to the city. The Painted Desert is now occupied by the Boy Scouts, for whom it makes an ideal group.

In addition to its supremely beautiful landscape effects, its museum exhibits and its attractions for lovers of art and music, Balboa Park provides facilities for the entertainment of those who have athletic tendencies. An 18-hole golf course, a battery of six concrete surfaced tennis courts, horseshoe pitches, miles of dirt road for equestrians, and many more miles of quiet trails for pedestrians afford ample encouragement for outdoor exercise.

Baseball and football, track meets and similar sports may be indulged in the park, while the huge concrete bowl stadium, seating 35,000 people is reserved for the more important football and baseball matches.

THE HARDENBERGIAS

By K. O. Sessions

They are natives of Australia and in a cold climate are grown only beneath glass and with difficulty. In Southern California the two species are desirable and decidedly distinct though both are winter bloomers; moreover they are quite drought resistant, and are deserving of more general cultivation.

H. monophylla is a hardy shrub with a plain stiff leaf and bears spikes of small pea flowers, pure white, pale pink and violet in varying shades from dark to light. It makes a bushy shrub, but if placed near a well and supported it takes on a half climbing habit. It is pleasing against a porch railing or short flight of steps with a railing to which it can be tied. Early in December the plants are heavily set with bud and by January are breaking in blossom.

H. Comptoniana has a leaf of 3 to 5 parts and of a very dark green color, and it is a decided vine in habit, twining itself about the support. A north or northeast exposure is most favorable, for its deep violet colored flowers hold their color better than in a sunny exposure. The vine has small stems and is rather light, making its growth all through the summer and early fall. The seed pods of this variety are peculiar, short, very round, very hard and very dark. The *H. monophylla* bears a thin, flat, hard seed pod. Both varieties are grown from seed but it is better to soak the seed well to hasten germination. As soon as the vine is through blooming it should be well pruned of the many small branches but not the main stems. If not pruned it makes a heavy matted growth that is impossible to properly train. All vines are greatly improved by intelligent training which makes them much more graceful. If any vine can climb into a nearby tree it is most pleasing and the vine seems to cling intelligently to the branches in a most pleasing way. That vines do direct their growth towards some object to which they may cling for support is very plainly demonstrated, if you will but observe.

All vines are greatly improved by proper pruning, but the main stems should not be cut back severely, only the side branches of the main stems and the long flowering wood. Nature prunes by the long ends dying back to some extent, but not enough to keep the best appearance.

LILY, IRIS AND ORCHID OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Under the above title there has recently appeared from the press an excellent book by Francis Marion Fultz, Assistant Director in the Department of Vocational Education of

the Los Angeles City Schools. Mr. Fultz is well known as a writer and lecturer on the native flora of California, and as the author of "The Elfin Forest," the only book that treats in popular language of those remarkable pigmy woodlands, called chaparral, that form the characteristic cover of so large a portion of our mountain slopes. The present volume is the outcome of many years of interest in the native lilies, irises and orchids of Southern California which the author has studied and photographed in their native haunts with the devotion of a lover. He writes from first-hand knowledge, in familiar language but with botanical precision. A notable feature of the book is a series of sixty-six half tones from the author's superb photographs, which are both accurate guides to the identification of the species described and works of art. Under the term lilies the author includes not only the genus *Lilium*, the true lilies, but also the various allied genera of the beautiful family found wild south of the Tehachapis, as *Brodiaea*, *Calochortus*, *Fritillaria*, *Allium*, *Yucca* and so on.

The volume is an unusually fine bit of book making, bound in green cloth with gold lettering and a lily design, a product of the Spanish-American Institute Press, Gardena, California, from which it may be obtained, or from the author at 5352 Aldama Street, Los Angeles. The price is \$3.—Charles Francis Saunders.

POINSETTIAS

Of course you are admiring the glorious Poinsettias. Every home should have them. They grow so easily, cost nothing, grow high and bloom when most other plants are off duty, and are cut down and out of the way during the time others are holding the front of the show.

If it happens you do not know how to get them for nothing, go to some friend who is pruning them, about February first. Cut the pruned sticks back to two or three buds, put them in the ground with only one good healthy bud above the soil but 6 or 8 inches below in order that they may not easily dry out. Plant where you wish them to stay as they object to being moved. Water only sparingly till September then water, and fertilize freely after buds begin to form. Be sure to prepare soil properly for good drainage, as they will weep and then die, if their feet stand in water.

Our Council should pass an Ordinance requiring every property owner to have them but since they have never made such a ruling, can we not have each Association member make their own law to see that everyone in their block plants six. You will have blooms in 9 months. Most of mine are now 20 inches in diameter.—Mrs. W. S. T.

RAINFORD FLOWER SHOP



Cut Flowers
Floral Designs

1115 Fourth Street

San Diego

CALIFORNIA'S STATE PARK SITUATION

In the November election, the state voted by a tremendous majority, a \$6,000,000 bond issue, to be devoted exclusively to the purchase of land for state parks. Every dollar, before expended, must be matched by another dollar from private sources. Humboldt county has already about a half million subscribed for the purchase of redwood groves exclusively (the donor has the right to designate the certain property he wishes his funds to be applied to.) I correct that statement at once. The amount is \$1,100,000 already on hand, for Humboldt county.

Thirteen thousand five hundred and ninety-six acres, mostly timber land, and over 14,000 acres redwood timber, are already safe in the State Park System. As much more is greatly desired for state parks, in the redwood district, and twice as much would be none too much to preserve. In fact, it is a world crime to cut any redwood timber where it stands in magnificent groves along the highways.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

Other sections which the public wishes conserved, are some of the Palm canyons of the Southern California desert. More of the high mountain areas, that are even too high to be practicable for cattle grazing. Some of the beaches. Many fine boulevards are being made in the mountains of Southern California. Mountain valleys where we used to go with a burro train or with horses and wagon, or on foot,—always on foot anyway when we were “making the grade,” are now easily accessible by automobile. One lovely valley where we camped for twenty-five summers, and at first had to walk up many miles of steep grade, where the horses had all they could pull, with just our camping outfit, now can be reached in an hour from the valley towns by auto,—and there is a hotel, where one must **dress for dinner**, or not get any! We do not go there! I can imagine the veranda full of fat ladies playing bridge all day, and occasionally looking over the valley and saying, “Ain’t the scenery nice up here!”

The State Federation of Women’s Clubs are donating about \$65,000 toward the purchase of a particularly fine tract of redwoods in Humboldt county. The river runs through it, and the trees clothe themselves with branches right to the ground when on a river bank or anywhere on the edge of the forest,—and please just try to picture in your minds two parallel walls, 200 to 300 feet tall, of living green, with their reflections doubling their height in reverse, in the still pools that occur frequently along the rivers here.

I want to send greetings for the holidays to all members, though some will not receive them till Fourth of July or past that. And for all time, I send heartfelt wishes for happy, successful, prosperous lives.

And “I’ll say this ain’t so bad,” for an attempt to do without glasses.

Better luck next time!

CHARLOTTE M. WILDER,
President, Asa Gray Memorial
Botanical Society.

ANNUAL BENEFIT BRIDGE

The Association’s Annual Benefit Bridge Party was held the afternoon of December 7th. The hall was filled to capacity, twenty-five tables having been sold. Table prizes were plants of cyclamen which gave color to the floral decorations. Delicious refreshments were served at the close of the afternoon.

Total receipts	\$51.15
Expenses	18.00

Net receipts	\$33.15
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Thanks should be given Mrs. Greer, Mrs. Strausser and Miss Halliday whose efforts made the party a success.—W. S.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

Has my subscription expired? This question is frequently asked the secretary. For the benefit of members and subscribers we reply, consult the address on your Garden Magazine. Notice the letter and numbers following the address. The letter “M” or “S” means “member” or “subscriber,” the first number gives the month in which your subscription expires and the second the year. For instance (M) 6-28 means member, sixth month, 1928.

Winifred Sinclair,
Secretary.

CARE OF CACTUS

Do not think that just because a plant happened to be a Cactus that it must need a constant hot sun and no water. They all do better for a small amount of water and several kinds tell you plainly they want a little shady nook.

But do not water a cactus slip. After breaking a cutting from its parent, let it lie in the sun for a week or two that the newly broken surface may harden. Then plant but water only sparingly till it shows growth. Many of them strike root if only laid upon the ground.—Mrs. W. S. T.

CARE OF LILY PONDS

By Mrs. W. S. Thomas

It is time now to plan about cleaning your Lily pond unless it is a new one. Ordinarily they need it only once a year and the best time is about February first. The hardy lilies will soon be starting growth and the goldfish begin to spawn sometimes in February, if the spring is early.

Divide the lily roots, leaving only one vigorous one to a small box. That is if your boxes are 1½ to 2 feet square. Give them all new soil, 3 parts good garden loam to 1 part rotted cow fertilizer. Cover with one inch sand and sink so there is at least one foot of water above the roots. You will save nothing by replanting in the old soil, or even using part of it, for your lilies will not grow nor bloom so well as in new good soil. When the Tropicals come on, a little later, they rather like a small amount of the muck from the bottom of the pool mixed in with the new dirt, but the hardy ones do not like it.

If you can have only one lily take the Chromatella. It is a beautiful yellow, large blossoms, free to bloom and a vigorous grower. If you have the standard hardy kinds, try a new one, or a tropical or a night bloomer.

Keep plenty of vegetation in your pool, particularly if you wish to raise your fish spawn, for they must be given chances to hide from their older greedy relatives.

NEW MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS

Mr. Ole Rassum, Ojai, Calif.
 Dr. A. E. Abrams, La Jolla.
 Miss Marion Crocker, Carmel, Calif.
 H. P. Dyer, Hollywood, Calif.
 Mr. C. W. McCann, South America.
 Mrs. Chas. B. Covert, San Diego.
 M. Schwink, St. Louis, Mo.
 Mrs. Ernest A. Bryant, Los Angeles.
 Mrs. A. F. Mentzel, Glendale, Calif.
 Margaret H. Beyer, New York.

PINES EASILY GROWN ON LOTS OF
SAN DIEGO

By Ada Perry

Because he likes pines, Judge J. H. Burtch of Lakeside planted three varieties of them on his bare front lot in 1917. Besides these he also put in two kinds of cypress and a parkinsonia.

The result of this taste and foresight is a big yard peopled and made interesting by some very beautiful trees.

A Monterey pine is the most beautiful of them all. Its growth has really been remarkable for it stands 47 feet high and measures five feet in circumference at the base. The young tree (10 years is just babyhood for a pine) stands symmetrically and proudly. Its thick-needled, dark green branches have arranged themselves in the tapering outline that is the aspiration of every young pine as long as fate permits.

Judge Burtch's Monterey Pine probably will always be straight and untwisted. The soil in his yard is good and the water table out at Lakeside is high. Neither high mountain or strong sea winds will grapple with it. It is and should remain, a fine tree.

Torrey Pine Sans Rocks

The other trees in the yard are well worth an introduction. A Torrey Pine by the gate has Christmas candles on an inch thick and longer than your hand. Maybe you don't know what that means. Take a look at the new shoots on any pine and see if they aren't like candles. This Torrey is very well formed and straight also. It has a sort of joyous, astonished air about it as if it were still surprised at having more soil than rocks to grow in.

The third pine comes from the middle west. It is one of a shipment of Michigan white pine seedlings brought here by a nurseryman in 1917. More somber than the others, it seems to remind you that it was bred from the tremendous Michigan forests instead of a tiny exclusive district in California.

An Italian cypress makes a soft dense column near Judge Burtch's front porch. There is nothing prettier than an Italian cypress that has grown naturally and healthily. So many on city lots have been crowded and starved.

Near its dark green spire is an Arizona cypress. This tree is worth planting just for the opportunity of observing its silver green mass after one of our welcome rains.

Parkinsonia aculeata is particularly suited to Lakeside, Judge Burtch quotes Miss Kate Sessions as saying. His own fine tree certainly bears out her statement. It stands on the highway, a flippery green veil that is strung with red and yellow flowers most of the year. Innumerable tree lovers stop and adore it, photograph it and rave over it. Let us hope that a good percentage of them go home and plant it.

Need No Irrigation

These trees have required no irrigation since the first few years of their lives. The flowers in the yard with them are narcissus and violets, and a very harmonious choice they are too.

The town of Lakeside itself has a gratifying number of trees. Sycamore and willow mass themselves thickly with eucalyptus and pepper in the park and elsewhere. The unusual and welcome sight of an autumn-strewn highway greets you as you drive between an avenue of splendid big trees, all in yellow leaf now. They are cork elms says Judge Burtch and were planted 40 years ago by the first president of the El Cajon Valley irrigation company.

On the Lakeside dirt road to Bostonia there is, on a rise to the right about a mile from Bostonia, an estate that illustrates the value of pines and kindred trees. There are a number of different trees flanking the attractive house at easy distances. The eucalyptus tower high and gloriously, but the conifers seem to definitely hold the eye. There appear to be about four species of pines, a fir, and several cypress. Olive and palm, and a parkinsonia mark you, are all present. Indeed a good sized Italian cypress and a large palm are enjoying life together side by side, a quaintly attractive association.

But it is the conifers that solidify the whole effect and make it the outstanding landscape that it is.

(Continued in February number)

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